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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT



SPONSOR: Picraux DATE TYPED: 02/06/02 HB 133/aHEC

SHORT TITLE: Change At-Risk Index Calculation SB _____

ANALYST: Segura

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY02	FY03	FY02	FY03		
		NFI			

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

State Department of Education (SDE)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of HEC Amendment

The House Education Committee amended House Bill 133 on page 3, line 11. The amendment changes the school years in the original bill that the department will recalculate the at-risk index.

Synopsis of Original Bill

House Bill 133 amends Section 22-8-23.3 of the Public School Finance Act to change the method of calculating the at-risk index for determining additional at-risk program units.

Significant Issues

According to SDE, the lack of stability in the current method of calculating the at-risk index has had an adverse effect on some school districts, which has resulted in the curtailment or termination of some at-risk programs. Under the current methodology this instability is likely to continue until all districts are in compliance with federal procedures for identifying limited English proficiency students. The methodology retains the advantages of the current methodology in that it does not require the identification of students to receive funds (avoiding the charge of "formula chasing") and it provides school districts with maximum flexibility in the design and delivery of programs for at-risk youth.

For the 2003-2004, 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 school years, a school district shall not receive less than 90 percent of the at-risk funding generated in fiscal year 2001.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The bill does not contain an appropriation.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None

RS/njw:ar